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By Kou/Med NARA, Date 6-24-87

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

November 12, 1958

TO : The Acting Secretary

THROUGH: S/S *g*

FROM : EUR - C. Burke Elbrick *CE*

SUBJECT: The Secretary's Suggestion of Referring to the Geneva Directive in Refuting the Recent Khrushchev Statement on Berlin.

IC 7620021

EUR has considered the suggestion which the Secretary made regarding the recent Khrushchev statement on Berlin. We believe that a reference to the violation by the Soviet Union of the Geneva Summit Directive (in which Marshal Bulganin acknowledged Soviet responsibility for German reunification) might be worked into a more general statement which we are now working on. We doubt, however, the advisability of issuing a press release or public announcement at this time which would place major emphasis on the Geneva Directive for the following reasons:

1. The Geneva Directive does not mention our quadripartite responsibility in Berlin.

2. There are specific quadripartite agreements on Berlin other than the Potsdam Agreement. We believe we should emphasize the Soviet unilateral abrogation of these agreements.

3. Since our position in Berlin does not rest on the Potsdam Agreement we do not think we should become too much involved in an argument about that agreement. It might easily become a dangerous red herring.

4. The shifting of attention from Berlin to the Geneva Directive might detract from the forcefulness of our reaffirmation of our Berlin commitment which should be our first order of business.

GER:GPA:ETLampson:mls

Clearance

GER: Mr. Hillenbrand

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